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CALGARY, ALBERTA, MARCH 4th, 1925

No. 6

Parliamentary Program Ignores the Most Important Issue Facing People of Canada

Legislation on Freight Rates on Land or Sea Can Bring Little Benefit Until Control of Economic Life of Dominion by a Few Men for Their Own Benefit Is Ended—Determined Stand May Be Necessary at Ottawa Against Wheat Embargo

By George G. Coote, M.P.

The first debate at any session of Parliament is on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. It usually lasts from two to three weeks but this year the debate took up only six days of the time of the House of Commons.

The public have shown very little interest in the debate this year as evidenced by the small attendance in the galleries.

MEMBERS REFRAIN FROM TIME-WASTING DEBATE

The members have not forgotten how on the last night of the session of 1924, the House passed estimates totalling probably over one hundred millions of dollars with almost no discussion, and many of the members refrained from speaking in this debate in the hope of having sufficient time to discuss the estimates in an intelligent manner and of having more time for the discussion of private members' resolutions and Government business.

The speech from the throne is a very colorless document. It is remarkable for what it does not say, rather than for what it contains. The opening paragraph refers to the substantial progress made in Canada last year, and states:

"The financial and trade situation justifies the expectation of an early return to the gold basis", but no hint is given as to what advantage this would be to Canadians, and no light was thrown on this important subject by the Prime Minister, who was supposedly the father of the address. The speech further states that the problem of the cost of living is the most important that the Government has in mind; and they almost admit their inability to lower it just now. In this connection, it is perhaps not to be wondered at that no mention is made in the speech from the throne regarding the ratification of the trade agreement with Australia, under

The article by G. G. Coote, U. F. A. member for Macleod, appearing in this issue, is the first of a series to be contributed by Alberta members of the House of Commons. The next will be by D. W. Warner, M.P.

the terms of which this same Government proposes to increase the duty on California raisins, from three-quarters of a cent to three cents per pound.

PERENNIAL TOPIC OF "IMMIGRATION"

One matter which is never omitted from the speech from the throne, is that of Immigration; and we have the usual assurance that every effort is being made to attract the right class of immigrants to Canada. To show the views of some of the members as to the kind of immigrants needed, let me quote from the speech of Mr. W. F. Garland, M.P., of Carleton, Ontario:

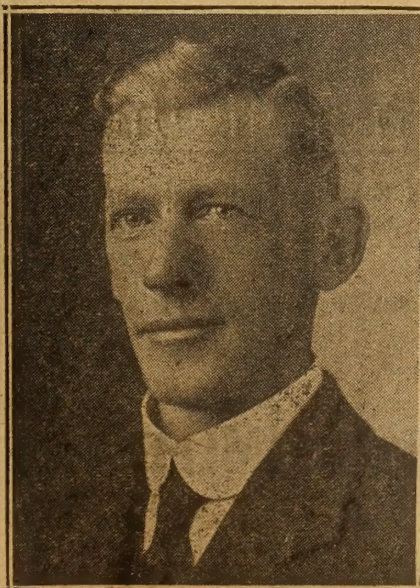
"The people come into this country and after about a month's stay on the land, they flock to the cities to swell the ranks of the unemployed. I would go so far as to suggest that before any man left his native land to come to Canada, he ought to be told that unless he remained two years, say, on the land in this country he would be deported."

One of the members was heard to remark that some of them would be anxious to be deported. If these Ontario men believe so many of the immigrants leave the land so soon, why not find out why these people leave the land, and why not right these conditions before spending millions of dollars per year for the purpose of bringing more immigrants in?

The speech intimates that the Government will bring down a measure, aiming to give them control of ocean freight rates. The report of their special commissioner shows very severe discrimination against not only Canada, but also Great Britain, by the North Atlantic shipping combine, and the Government proposals for dealing with the situation will be awaited with considerable interest.

The speech ignores the greatest question confronting Canada today, that is the control of finance in Canada by a

(Continued on page 2)



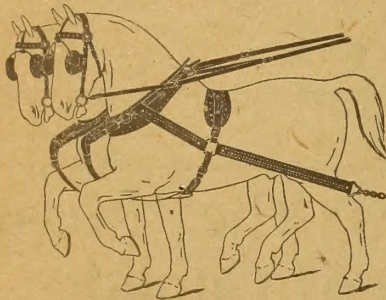
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PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM IGNORES MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING PEOPLE OF CANADA

(Continued from page 1)

small number of men for their own particular benefit. Until that problem is dealt with, all the legislation which this House can pass regarding freight rates, either on land or sea, will bring comparatively little improvement in the economic situation in Canada.

Speaking of financial problems, brings up what is probably the most notable omission from the speech from the throne, that is, the matter of rural credits. This matter has been under consideration by Select Committees of the House for the last two years. The final report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce in the session of 1924 recommends that investigation on the subject be continued and that "legislation be prepared based on the said further investigations and calculated to meet the credit needs of the agricultural classes of the Dominion and submitted to Parliament at its next session."

That next session has now arrived, and as has been stated, this vital subject is not mentioned in the speech from the throne. A resolution stating that, in the opinion of the House, legislation should be brought down by the Government this session for the establishment of a federal system of rural credits, has been placed on the order paper by Mr. Jelliff, one of the Alberta members.

If the speech from the throne gives any intimation of the Government's policy, it would appear that no tariff reductions are to be made this year.

No mention is made regarding the transfer of the Natural Resources of Alberta to the Province, and no mention is made of the Government's intention to introduce the Bill providing for the use of the preferential ballot in single member constituencies.

MAY NEED DETERMINED STAND ON EMBARGO

The report of the Royal Grain Enquiry has been printed and distributed. The question of an export duty on wheat, which is mentioned in the report, has caused a good deal of discussion in the lobbies of Parliament and in the press. The proposal seems to find favor with many people here, and it may require a very determined stand on the part of Western members to prevent such a duty being placed on our wheat which goes to the United States.

The feeling is quite general here that the Government are anxious to have as short a session as possible, to be followed by an election before the end of the year.

SPRAY LAKES POWER

Three alternative schemes for the development of power from the Spray Lakes are outlined in the report prepared by Frederic A. Gaby, chief engineer of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, for the Alberta Government, and presented in the Provincial Legislature last week.

Under the plan of development upon which the report is based a maximum of 57,000 horse power would be provided. The first of the three schemes, which, it is estimated, would cost about \$11,000,000, would provide for power to be delivered to the municipalities of Calgary, Edmonton, Exshaw, Canmore and Cochrane. The cost of the second scheme would be about \$14,352,000, and under the scheme power would be supplied to Lethbridge, and as far east as Drumheller. The third, which would cost a little less than the second scheme, is in accordance with a different grouping. Under both of the latter two, however, power would be distributed over a very wide area, to many points in the south and central portions of the Province, and also territory as far north as Edmonton.

The estimated cost per horse power per annum ranges from \$23.35 at Exshaw and \$26.39 at Calgary to \$40, \$51 and \$52 per annum, in round figures, at some points.

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The new Pleasington U. F. W. A. Local will hold meetings in the Pleasington schoolhouse. Miss Le Gear is the president, and Mrs. A. Crawford the secretary.

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EDITORIAL

AS YOU LIKE IT

Party speakers in the Legislature last week devoted approximately one-half of their criticism of the farmers' political movement to proving that the U. F. A. was "dominated" by and subservient to the Alberta Government. The other half was devoted to proving that an ogre, known as the U. F. A. Convention, stood over the Alberta Government, lash in hand, and whipped it into unwilling and cowed submission.

The trouble with these speakers is that they seek to prove too much in a single session. We suggest as an alternative plan that one session should be spent in proving that the Government is a tyrant engaged in bullying the farmers, and the next in proving that the organized farmers are ignorant and arrogant dictators. That would give the less discriminating portion of the public time to forget the first argument before the second is advanced.

* * *

It is true that some of the party speakers can find no fault with the organized farmers except that they have declined to follow the leadership of the party politicians.

* * *

The debate on the address is a waste of time when devoted to senseless and insincere political child's play. Insofar as it provides an opportunity for members to discuss public affairs in a reasonable and constructive spirit, and to cover a somewhat wider field than is possible when particular measures are brought under consideration, it may serve a useful purpose. A number of very creditable speeches were delivered during the past week, and the Independent and Labor benches made important contributions to the debate. One of the best of these was delivered by F. J. White, a member of the Labor group, whose speech was constructively critical, but entirely free from the spirit of partyism.

* * *

So long as any considerable portion of the membership of the Assembly is concerned less with the advancement of public business than with artificial political party issues which no member of the Legislature takes seriously, except when he is participating in party manoeuvres on the floor of the Chamber, there must be a lack of legislative efficiency. The hope of the future lies in the elimination of partyism. The replacement of the old line parties by numerically strong Independent and Labor groups would be a distinct step forward. Criticism from the Labor or Independent benches commands a degree of attention and respect from the public which can never be won by a party which opposes on principle. The only "Conservative" in the Assembly owes his strength to the fact that he is more Independent than he is Conservative.

* * *

UNIVERSITIES AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH

In most of the great, privately endowed universities of the United States, and, to a lesser extent, in many state uni-

versities, there has been proceeding for more than a decade a steady encroachment upon intellectual freedom. Members of the faculties of these universities who have sought to maintain the principle of academic freedom, and the liberty of public utterance which is commonly supposed to be the right of every citizen in a democratic community, have in numerous instances been discharged or compelled to resign, and in the departments of economics and sociology, reaction has gained a firm foothold. Hon. Bertrand Russell, for many years a lecturer in the University of Cambridge, commented in subtly satiric vein on the prevailing tendency during a recent visit to the United States, and his comment was widely circulated by Americans who are engaged in the fight for the restoration of academic freedom.

In some degree a similar condition prevails in various universities in Eastern Canada, where professors who, if they were in a position to express themselves without restraint, might make substantial contributions to the cause of economic justice, are held back by the controlling force of finance, the education of the public being sacrificed in the interest of wealthy men whom the higher authorities do not dare to offend. This we are able to state on unimpeachable authority. On the whole there is greater intellectual freedom in Great Britain than in any other part of the English-speaking world.

We believe that in this matter the people of Alberta would prefer that their own university should seek to maintain at least as high a degree of freedom of speech as is enjoyed by students and faculty alike in the best British universities. It would be unfortunate if there should remain even the suggestion of interference with the right of any member of the faculty to exercise his full privileges of citizenship, by expressing in public his own opinions and his own conclusions upon questions of public moment.

The function of a university, it has been generally assumed, is to give light, though it is true that the pioneers of modern thought and social progress have frequently been found in other than academic circles. This function cannot be performed unless men of special training are free to express their views, even though by doing so they may at times come into conflict with business or popular prejudice. In no university in which mental life is vigorous will there be unanimity of opinion. Opinions may be expressed from time to time with which we may not agree, and arrival at sound conclusions depends in large measure on the intelligent selection of authorities and independent study of current affairs. But, without freedom of expression, particularly in the field of economics and history and international politics, there can be, at this period in our history, little real progress towards the light. It is to be hoped that in the Provincial University, which is a publicly owned institution, intellectual liberty will be jealously guarded.

* * *

Members of Parliament who recognize the obvious fact that the solution of our problems depends upon much more fundamental matters than any reduction of ocean and rail freight rates that we may hope to obtain, are not less but more aggressive in the fight for such reductions than those who expect to find a solution in one or two minor palliatives. As Mr. Coote very clearly points out, so long as our economic life is controlled by a comparatively small group of men, in their own interests, there can be no solution.

* * *

Dr. Chas. E. Saunders, former Dominion cerealist, who after years of patient work presented Western Canada with the famous Marquis wheat, has been living very close to the poverty line for some years past. Parliament this year will

(Continued on page 11)

Greenfield Announces Agreement on Transfer of Resources--Mitchell Moves Amendment to Address to Reduce Indemnities

Davidson Denounces Liberal Amendment as Insincere Political Move to Embarrass Government—Main Business of Session Awaits Conclusion of Debate—Independent, Labor and U. F. A. Members Deprecate Waste of Time in Partizan Political Jockeying

Staff Correspondence

Natural Resources Decision Features Day in Assembly

Enzenauer Deplores Ill-Considered Talk on Immigration and Emphasizes Importance of Economic Representation

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, February 23. — Definite announcement was made by Premier Greenfield in the Legislature today of the acceptance by the Alberta Government of the terms laid down by the Federal Government for the transfer of the Natural Resources to Provincial control. Authorization had been received by wire from Premier King for the public announcement of the settlement, which provided for payment of the present subsidy in lieu of land for three years. Cheers from the Government benches greeted this announcement, the Liberals in the Assembly remaining silent.

"MOVE TO EMBARRASS GOVERNMENT", SAYS DAVIDSON

C. R. Mitchell, Liberal leader, moved an amendment to the address to the effect that as a preliminary step toward a policy of economy, the sessional indemnity paid to members should be reduced. W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), who moved for a reduction of the indemnity last year, declared, "This is just a move to embarrass the Government, and I shall vote against it." P. J. Enzenauer, Alexandra, (U.F.A.), who was the last speaker of the day, spoke at length on the economic plan of representation, explaining its principles. The debate was adjourned by J. M. Dechene, Beaver River (Liberal).

MITCHELL DELIVERS FIRST SPEECH AS LEADER

Rising to deliver his first speech as leader of the Liberal party, C. R. Mitchell was received with general cheers. After brief introductory remarks, he plunged into an attack on the Government, which, he said, intended to preserve the obnoxious policy of turning into current revenue funds earned from the Federal authorities, which funds should be used to reduce the debt incurred by the Highways policy. The practice, said Mr. Mitchell, overrode all rules of accountancy. A committee selected to confer with the Highways commission had been appointed by the practice of drawing names from a hat.

Speaking of the Natural Resources, Mr. Mitchell said that the Liberals had given the Government the freest possible hand. It was common knowledge that the decision to hand over the resources had been arrived at, yet so far as the Government was concerned the people had been kept in the dark. The reference

The Legislative program of the Government is well in hand early in the session, and 21 Government bills were down for second reading on Monday of last week, three days after the opening. Consideration of these measures, however, will not be taken up until after the conclusion of the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the Throne, and the Liberal party's amendment. On the day when this is written (March 2nd), the debate has been in progress for more than a week. The fact that night sessions will commence on March 2nd, at a much earlier period in the life of the session than usual, indicates the likelihood that public business will be much expedited from this time forward.

in the speech from the Throne could have been made four years ago. The correspondence lay in the Premier's office, and personally, Mr. Mitchell did not believe there was any obligation for secrecy. The delay was characteristic of the "hesitating, halting and stumbling" of the Government ever since the election of 1921, declared the Liberal leader, in a declamatory passage which was greeted with ironic applause from the Government benches, somewhat to Mr. Mitchell's annoyance. Mr. Hoadley suggested that there were "other methods of making public the facts than through the mouth of the leader of the opposition." It was a good thing, remarked Mr. Mitchell, that there was a Liberal Government at Ottawa to turn over the resources.

"I just got Mr. King's wire releasing me from any obligation to withhold the correspondence ten minutes before the Assembly opened," said the Premier in answer to the complaints of delay, and after another brief passage at arms, Mr. Mitchell protested that the Premier should table all the documents without offering any comment upon them.

Discussing irrigation, Mr. Mitchell said his party would co-operate with the Government to alleviate conditions in the Lethbridge Northern district. The Government had been remiss in that it had not paid sufficient attention to this subject. It was the irony of fate that the founders should not deem themselves responsible. The U.F.A. and various boards of trade were on record in favor of the project, and the Legislature had been unanimous.

UNSEEMLY DELAY IN APPOINTING COMMISSION

In the matter of the coal commission, said Mr. Mitchell, there had been unseemly delay. The stalling policy to delay the presentation of the report was adopted in order that the Government might escape responsibility for dealing with the findings of the Com-

mission and this indicated that an early election was expected.

There was no reference in the speech from the Throne to adjustments of finances. The Liberal party, however, stood for reductions in the cost of Government, and promised economy. The Government was unconcerned as to where the Province was drifting, was increasing expenditures. Salary reductions would never balance the budget, nor would a balanced budget solve the financial problem. The Government must meet interest charges on the railways and on irrigation bonds, totalling one and a half million dollars.

Past Governments were responsible for the railway policy and Mr. Mitchell did not blame the present one, but the time had come when the Government must dispose of the roads, or some other way must be found to stop the pyramiding of debts.

MITCHELL MOVES AMENDMENT TO ADDRESS

Mr. Mitchell declared that the time had arrived when larger municipal units must be created. He then moved his amendment expressing

"Regret that inasmuch as the Government during each year of its term of office has been unable to balance the Provincial budget thus creating a large accumulated deficit covering that period, no mention, direct or implied, has been made in the speech from the Throne, delivered by the Honorable, the Administrator of the Province, as to the Government's policy, if any, with regard to a reduction in the cost of Government and a readjustment of and possible reduction of Provincial taxation.

"This Legislative Assembly is therefore of the opinion that some pronouncement of policy relative thereto should be made.

"It is accordingly recommended and urged that immediate steps be taken by the Government to effect the economies above indicated, as well as others, and with that end in view and as a step preliminary thereto, we propose that provision be made for a substantial reduction in the amount paid to members of the Legislature by way of sessional indemnity, the same to be applicable to the present session of the Legislature."

GREENFIELD CONGRATULATES NEW LIBERAL LEADER

Premier Greenfield, in his opening remarks, referred to the loss sustained by the death of Chief Justice Scott, and of members of the Assembly, to the elevation of J. R. Boyle to the bench and C. R. Mitchell's appointment as Liberal leader. He congratulated Mr. Mitchell, remarking amid laughter that the member for Bow Valley would doubtless continue to occupy his present position for many years to come.

The people of the Province of Alberta, said the Premier, had cause for thankfulness and satisfaction, since, though some were not yet out of difficulty, in the greater part of the Province recovery was taking place from the effects of

the past years of depression. Many things had contributed to this changed condition—the tremendous crop of 1923 marked the turning of the tide.

Notwithstanding the phenomenal yield of that year, the year 1924 opened with a world shortage of wheat, which was in itself a factor in establishing the present satisfactory grain prices. There was not likely to be a large carry over from the 1924 crop, and indications all pointed to good grain prices for 1925, whether the yield should be large or small.

CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING FACTOR IN BETTER PRICES

"Again," said Mr. Greenfield, "the educational work of many years, looking to the betterment of marketing conditions for agricultural products on a co-operative basis, is now rapidly bearing fruit. The farmers of the West are becoming firmly seized of the benefits of co-operative marketing of farm products. The formation of the Wheat Pool, hastened by the helpful and sympathetic attitude of a Government closely allied to the farmer, and who through actual experience understood the farmer's problems, and the functioning of the Pool, have been no small factors in improving grain prices. Here it is possible for many farmers to benefit from advanced prices of the past few months to a greater extent than they could have done had the Pool not been in operation.

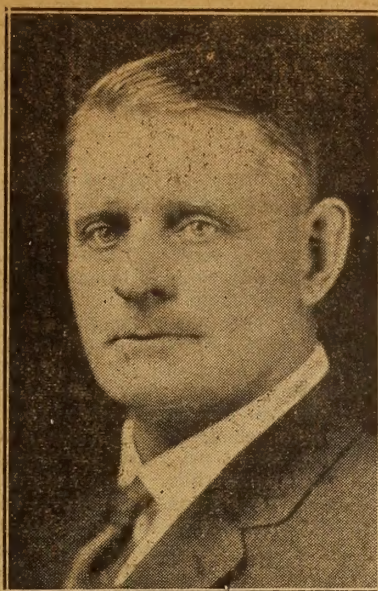
"Co-operative marketing will spread because fundamentally it is sound and equitable. A Livestock Pool, a Pool for Dairy Products and a Pool for Eggs and Poultry, are now being organized. The Government welcomes this development and will continue to advocate it and assist it until it embraces all farm products.

"While considerable progress has been made in improvement of the business conditions surrounding agriculture, there are still important matters calling for adjustment that will materially affect agricultural progress and development in Canada. It is hoped that the report made at the request of the Federal Government by Dr. Tory on Rural Credits will lead to the problem of long term credit being tackled aggressively at Ottawa.

LONG TERM CREDIT SYSTEM ESSENTIAL

"Agriculture cannot hope to develop without provision for long term mortgage loans, supplemented by a system of short term credit that will assist the farmer when he needs assistance most in periods of low production. The present system, which was never designed to meet and does not meet the needs of agriculture, too often harasses the farmer under such conditions as much as it helps him. In short, the five-year mortgage and the three months' note fail miserably as a financial system for the building up of a stable, solid agricultural industry in Western Canada.

"Then again, the work of the Royal Grain Commission should lead to improvement in the provisions of the Canada Grain Act with reference to handling and marketing grain. The development of co-operative marketing improved prices; the fact that the Government of Canada is giving close attention to the question of long term credits, and the work of the Grain Inquiry Commission have all tended to improve the spirit of the people and are indications that Governments and farmers themselves are realizing the necessity of placing farming



HON. HERBERT GREENFIELD

on a sound footing from a business standpoint.

"There is much still to be done. We have progressed and must continue to progress in order that we may have a contented rural people and make farming in Canada more attractive to the prospective settler so as to secure for Canada increased population—an influx of men on the land—that our rural life may be a full and well rounded life, with the facilities of civilization provided at reasonable cost and with the fullest possible use made of the natural wealth of the country. For it is only by increased production that we can materially and permanently reduce transportation costs and meet our financial obligations as a people.

TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM IN THE NORTH

"Considerable attention has been given during the past year to the transportation situation in the North Country. The Assembly will recall that it was hoped to hold a conference of Governments and railway companies interested during the summer months in an effort to decide the best way of dealing with the matter. This was not found possible owing to the railways not having the survey work necessary for their guidance completed. The conference, however, met in Ottawa on January 9th last, and after a full discussion of the situation it was agreed that the presidents of the two transcontinental systems should have their engineers jointly canvass the whole situation in an endeavor to reach a basis by which the two companies could co-operate in meeting the needs of the country, and, by working out the problem together, as far as possible, avoid duplication of construction and unwise expenditure of capital monies, and endeavor to salvage as much as possible out of present investments. The work was entered into at once by the engineers of the two companies, who will report to their respective presidents at the earliest possible date, when the conference of all parties will again meet for discussion of the reports.

"This co-operative action is a new development in the Canadian railway world, and it will be a good thing for Canada if worked out successfully, and

will probably lead to a closer co-operation between the two transportation companies.

INVESTIGATION INTO THE COAL INDUSTRY

"There has been some criticism and the Government has been blamed for delay in appointing the Alberta Coal Commission. It is the purpose of the Government that the Commission shall make a very thorough inquiry into all the conditions affecting the coal industry. It is very necessary that the Commission, in order to get witnesses to give the fullest information and give it freely and without bias, should establish and maintain a friendly and impartial relationship with all branches of the industry.

"The resolution authorizing the establishment of the Commission was passed by the Assembly on March 14th. The miners' strike went into effect April 1st, and ended October 20th. The Commission was appointed October 30th, and immediately commenced work collecting data and assembling comprehensive information by questionnaire to operators, miners and dealers. This work is progressing well and we anticipate public hearings will commence in March. The Commissioners themselves are entirely in accord with the Government that it would have been very unwise for them to have attempted to carry on their work during the strike.

AGREEMENT TO TURN OVER THE NATURAL RESOURCES

"I want to refer to the negotiations with the Federal Government on the Natural Resources question. Discussions have taken place during the year between the Federal Ministers and ourselves. At the first discussion little progress was made, and it became increasingly apparent that there was little hope of the representation of the two Governments getting closer together.

GREENFIELD'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

"I had another interview with the Prime Minister on December 16th last. At that interview the offer made previously to the Province by the Dominion Government, which still remained for acceptance by the Province, was definitely accepted by myself on behalf of the Provincial Government in the following letter:

Chateau Laurier,
Ottawa, Ont.,
Dec. 16th, 1924.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Premier:—Since the interview Hon. Mr. Brownlee and I had with you and the members of your Government, on the 19th of November, when we again discussed the settlement of the Natural Resources question, I have taken the opportunity to confer with my colleagues in Edmonton.

On behalf of the Government of the Province of Alberta, and in order to avoid the delay and expense of an accounting, I hereby accept the terms of settlement offered verbally by you at the conference in November, 1922, and confirmed in your letter of January 12, 1923, and again at our conference on November 19, namely:

The transfer to the Province of the remaining resources and the payment of the amount of the present subsidy in lieu of lands for three years; payment to be construed "not as an obligation to continue the subsidy for the period mentioned but rather as a consideration sufficient to meet what might be necessary in the way of outlay on the part of the Government of Alberta in effecting transfer and arranging for the administration of the resources under its control."

The discussion in detail of the various services rendered in connection with the Natural Resources in order to arrive at an understanding as to what services are properly Federal and what are properly Provincial will take some time and it is understood that the acceptance of the terms of settlement above mentioned is subject to the respective Governments reaching an agreement upon these points. In this I anticipate no serious difficulty.

In considering this matter we have been influenced in our decision by your acceptance in our negotiations of April, 1922, of the principle, "that it is desirable and just that such adjustment be made between the Dominion of Canada and the Prairie Provinces with respect to their Natural Resources as will give full recognition to the principle that in this respect they are entitled to be placed in a position of equality with the other Provinces of Confederation."

It is further understood that the terms of settlement above set out are subject to ratification by the Parliament of Canada and the Provincial Legislatures.

May 1, Mr. Premier, take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the efforts you have made to reach a settlement of this long-standing question.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) H. GREENFIELD.

"The Prime Minister then intimated to me that he desired to make some further investigations and that in the meantime my communication of December 16th and the result of my interview with him would be withheld from the press. I received a wire from the Prime Minister just before entering the Assembly which releases me from that obligation, and I hope to table the correspondence tomorrow for the information of the Assembly.

"Agreement between the two Governments as to the services to be undertaken by each has yet to be reached, and many minor matters settled. I do not anticipate any serious difficulty in this, although it will take some time. The settlement of this question and the establishment of control in Edmonton will be of great advantage to the Province. It is yet another justification for confidence in the immediate future of the Province.

"Reviewing the general situation in Alberta today from every angle, and giving the consideration to the difficulties presented by some of the acute problems which have yet to be dealt with, not for years has the general outlook for the future been so promising as it is now, nor the faith of the people who have retained confidence in Alberta through the years shown greater indications of having been well justified."

COMPARATIVE BORROWINGS OF TWO GOVERNMENTS

Discussing the suggestion of Mr. Mitchell that the Government had been lacking in economy, the Premier quoted comparative figures of the capital borrowings of the election year of 1921, and the succeeding years.

In 1921, said Mr. Greenfield, the Liberal Government borrowed for capital expenditure a total of \$17,000,000. In 1922 the present Government borrowed for capital expenditure \$8,567,000; in 1923 a total of \$5,800,000; and in 1924 a total of \$2,823,000, exclusive of the amount of a special loan for the University of Alberta. Of the amount borrowed by the U. F. A. Government, no less than \$7,000,000 went to meet commitments of the previous Government.

Mr. Greenfield also presented a comparative statement of the capital borrowings of the Stewart Government during the last three years in which they

were in office, and the borrowings of the U. F. A. Government during their first three years. This showed that in the years 1919, 1920 and 1921, the former Liberal Government averaged \$9,170,000. The capital borrowings of the present Government during their first three years (1922, 1923 and 1924), averaged \$5,737,000.

LIBERALS VOTED DOWN MOTION AT PREVIOUS SESSION

W. M. Davidson, Calgary (Independent), moved the adjournment of the debate. This was refused by the Assembly and Mr. Davidson spoke briefly, deprecating the political acrimony and heat which he said had been engendered, and stating that he would not support the amendment. "Last year," he said, "I suggested that this Assembly eliminate contentious features and get down to the real business of the Province, discussing public affairs without party animus, but the amendment does not conform to this view. It is in effect an amendment calling for a vote of want of confidence on a very trivial matter. It is done merely to embarrass the Government, and for that reason I will vote against it."

Reminding the Assembly of his own motion at a previous session, to reduce the indemnity, Mr. Davidson said that this was brought in at the proper time and in the proper manner, during the budget, and had a serious purpose—that of making a real start in the reduction of the expense of the Government. Mr. Davidson remarked that at that time, "there wasn't a corporal's guard to support me," and explained in answer to a question, that Mrs. McClung was his only supporter. The Liberals had voted against the motion.

Conditions, declared the Calgary member, had changed since that motion was introduced, and there were greater questions, such for instance, as unemployment, in which Provincial and Federal Governments appeared to be attempting to "pass the buck" one to another. He intimated that he might conceivably introduce a resolution later on, for reduced indemnity, but it would be done without intention to embarrass the Government.

ENZENAUER ON SENSELESS POLITICAL "CROSS-FIRING"

Expressing hearty agreement with Mr. Davidson's objections to acrimonious and senseless political "cross-firing" across "No Man's Land", P. J. Enzenauer went on to express sympathy, rather than congratulation (as had been the custom of previous speakers), with the members who had been "advanced"—the member for Bow Valley and certain of his lieutenants promoted to the front bench.

Mr. Enzenauer made a strong plea for co-operative endeavor in the Assembly, pointing out that if all the time wasted in silly and insincere political bickering which in fact nobody took seriously, unless it were the more gullible sections of the public who did not understand the situation—if all this useless waste of time were eliminated, it would still require the united and sincere efforts of the members of the Assembly, each approaching public questions in a serious spirit, to solve the problems confronting society. Most of the time spent in the debate on the address, said Mr. Enzenauer, was wasted.

"To day," he declared, "all important issues are economic rather than merely political, and we should aim for business

ends rather than for show. Economic groups should now be represented in the Assembly, and there should be, on this basis, due representation of all interests." In the present Assembly, the member remarked, the farmers were in fact over-represented, and this condition could only be remedied by other interests obtaining representation in proportion to their numerical strength. This could not be obtained through the political party system, which was the opposite of the system of group representation.

The political party system, the system of "Government" and "Opposition", was as absurd as it would be for a farmer to hire one man to do his work, and to hire another to interfere with the first, and prevent him from doing it. Here was one of the greatest sources of waste, and an effort should be made to eliminate it from the Legislature.

Business administration, said Mr. Enzenauer, consisted in getting one hundred cents of value for every dollar spent, and this was economy also, whether the amount spent were large or small.

Today, declared the member for Alexandra, large numbers of farmers were in straits verging on desperation, and under such circumstances "speeches from the throne" or at least the time wasted in debates upon them, were unpardonable dissipation of money, energy and time. On the quiet back benches of the Assembly, and when plowing on the farm he had often wondered why such waste should be tolerated.

Two ways of attaining emancipation from the conditions now prevailing presented themselves to the farmers. The first was co-operative marketing; the second the reducing of the costs of production. It was the function of the Government to carry on research into such matters as these, not merely to collect revenue. Not sufficient research had been made into the real costs of production. It was the function of the Government to find the cause of fluctuating values, and then seek to remove it.

Mr. Enzenauer deprecated ill-considered talk about "immigration" as the solution of our problems. Density of population and prosperity by no means necessarily went hand in hand. Part of the cry for increased immigration was due to deflation of values.

J. Dechene Deplores Farmers' Entry Into Independent Politics

Believes Organized Farmers Should Leave Politics in Hands of Political Parties—Sparks Delivers Speech on Economic Problems

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 24th.—Occupying the floor of the Legislature for two hours and a half, and indicating at one point in his speech that he might continue to the ending of the sitting and then adjourn the debate, J. M. Dechene, Beaver River (Liberal), announced that every one of the Liberals was going to take part. Mr. Dechene spoke eloquently, and covered most of the subjects dealt with in the first thirty-five minutes, the remainder of the afternoon being spent in reiter-

ation and in elaboration of the points made in the earlier part of the speech. Until 5.30 he continued untiringly, but, as the Assembly does not rise until 6, failed to carry out his threat to adjourn the debate. E. E. Sparks, Wetaskiwin (U.F.A.), spoke briefly, adjourned the debate, and will conclude his speech tomorrow.

The Assembly divided on a motion to the effect that Ash Wednesday should be observed, as is customary, as a holiday. This was defeated, on a non-party vote, by 23 to 19, and business as usual will be transacted tomorrow.

Mr. Dechene paid an impressive tribute to the late Senator Cote. He entirely disagreed with Mr. Enzenauer's view that an official "opposition" whose duty it was to oppose the Government as a matter of policy, made for inefficiency, for, said he, there must be criticism as a means to efficiency, and it was far better that criticism of the Government should come from its enemies than from members on the Government side of the Assembly.

DELIVERS ATTACK ON U. F. A. POLITICAL ACTION

Mr. Dechene devoted a great part of his speech on the address to an attack upon the political principles of the U.F.A. He declared that the U.F.A. Convention did not consider that elected representatives should be free to think for themselves—"they must listen to the dictation of their organization". No such thing, declared the member, with an eloquent gesture, was known in the Liberal party or in the Liberal convention. All the Liberal members retained entire freedom of action, and were elected to represent "all the people."

When the member for Beaver River charged that "a direct attempt was being made by the U.F.A. to obtain control of all municipal councils," and that orders had been given to "capture municipal councils" as this would give advantages in the next Provincial election, he was challenged by Mr. Brownlee.

"Does the hon. member suggest that anything of this kind is being done by the Government?" asked the Attorney General.

"No," Mr. Dechene replied, "by the U.F.A."

"Does he suggest that it is with the knowledge of the Board of the U.F.A.?" Mr. Brownlee pressed, Mr. Dechene replying that perhaps some honorable members could answer this question. In further discussion he said that some member of the Legislature had made some statement at some time as to the desirability of capturing municipal councils, but did not offer any further information.

"There is no need to say that the Government or the U.F.A. at Calgary gave orders, to show that it is so, and I think we'll let it go at that," Mr. Dechene added finally by way of explanation.

This little passage at arms led Mr. Dechene into a declaration that the U.F.A. in its early days had undoubtedly been composed of many of the best people in Canada, that they were "the advance guard of Liberalism." Finally, after acting in this capacity for twenty years a tragedy had occurred, when they decided to enter politics as an organization. Today, said Mr. Dechene, they had as their guiding mind "the rankest

Tory the Province ever produced." The leopard, added the member, could not change his spots.

NO BUSINESS IN POLITICS

Mr. Dechene insisted that the U.F.A. should be economic alone, and found his one great grievance against the organization in that it did not leave political affairs to the political parties.

He pleaded for a change in the law which would have the effect of vesting in landowners all sub-surface rights, stating that this policy had been followed in the United States with excellent results. He was opposed to the Mineral Rights Tax Act, claiming that only the minerals, when found, and not the rights, should be taxed.

SPARKS ON IMPROVED CONDITIONS

Expressing regret at the losses suffered by death, and congratulating the new Liberal leader on his promotion, E. E. Sparks, Wetaskiwin (U. F. A.), went on to say that generally speaking crop conditions were not of the best, and this, and the poorer grades obtained, had a decided influence on the financial condition of the Province. The price was better, however, and in many districts the general position of the grower was consequently improved. For example, three years ago 300 bushels of wheat were required to buy a drill, whereas 100 bushels would buy a drill today.

This example of fluctuating comparative values illustrated the necessity for the stabilization of prices before Alberta could be emancipated from the low economic level to which it had been driven. The improvement that had already been brought about was due in part to the efforts of the farmers themselves assisted by their Government.

With the assistance of the Government, the farmers had recorded their greatest achievement in waking up to a realization of the necessity for scientific merchandizing of the product of their labor. The first Pool appeared to be successful, and plans for other Pools were being put forward. The farmers appreciated the fact today that their returns must be based on the cost of production plus a margin, as was the case in other businesses, and they went further and demanded that the basic industry in which they were engaged should be made attractive in order that others might be induced voluntarily to engage in it.

"When the condition at which the farmers are aiming arrives", said Mr. Sparks, "neither the leader of the Liberals nor anyone else will have to worry about balancing the budget; the mortgage companies will not need to worry about priorities; the farmer will have one hundred cents for a dollar's obligation."

"The Liberal leader seems to harbor the opinion that the state can be made prosperous by balancing the budget. In my humble opinion the state is no more prosperous than its people."

Mr. Sparks believed it was part of the business of the Government to assist in the development of marketing facilities, to keep the farmers' products out of the hands of speculators as nearly as possible until these products reached the consumer. It was as necessary for the farmers to own elevators as it was for them to own machinery.

Freight rates, ocean rates, development of branch railways, all these things, said the member, were the business of the Government.

Discussing the western grain route, Mr. Sparks said he believed that even more important than freight rates was the fact that Alberta wheat did not lose its identity, had less chance of being adulterated than if it were shipped East. He had met at Vancouver a French buyer who preferred our wheat for this reason, and in consequence there was likely to be a higher price offered.

"Let us," declared Mr. Sparks, "not mind so many political frills to our debates, and always be trying to patch up some amendment to every motion, trying to make a political impression for the next election. Let us do our best for Alberta, in a businesslike, conscientious way. The folks back home will then look after the next election."

Before moving the adjournment, the member expressed the opinion that the Government would be justified in guaranteeing the purchase or construction of elevators. They had done this before, and never had a five cent piece to pay, and it could be done again.

Have Gone the Limit in Cutting Expenses, Says Robt. Pearson

Independent Member Advocates Income
Tax—Sparks on Mistakes in Immigration—Tobin Opposes U. F. A.
Representation

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, February 25th.—Resuming the debate today, Mr. Sparks, while expressing no objection to purely voluntary immigration of suitable settlers who decide to come to Canada after obtaining entirely reliable information upon conditions, protested very strongly against the continuance of the present style of propaganda, declaring that according to his information the policy of painting Canada in attractive colors, and failing to give information on the drawbacks and difficulties confronting the farmers, was still being continued.

Robert Pearson, Independent member for Calgary, said he believed the Government had gone as far as it was possible to go in reducing the expenses of administration, and advocated the adoption of a Provincial income tax as a means of increasing the revenue.

OUTLET FOR PEACE RIVER COUNTRY

Discussing the necessity for the development of the resources of the Province, E. E. Sparks of Wetaskiwin, called attention to the importance of the "S" line of the C.N.R. surveyed between Edmonton and Calgary, traversing new territory, pointing out that the bonds were sold some years ago for the portion between Edmonton and Red Deer, and the money spent elsewhere. The providing of an outlet to the Pacific coast for the settlers of the Peace River country was a matter of the utmost urgency.

While not opposed to new settlers coming into Alberta, provided their decision

to come was based on honest information and not on misrepresentation, Mr. Sparks said that many public men in Canada, including some cabinet ministers, had been carried away with an excessive enthusiasm, and that this might result in disaster, not only to the settlers, but to the Dominion as a whole. It might be said that this was a matter of Dominion policy, but the question was who became responsible for the settlers after they had been brought into Alberta.

Recalling the days when he himself was an immigrant, the member for Westaskin described the propaganda carried on all over Europe and the United States, in which elaborate pictorial posters were used, showing the Alberta farmer living in a beautiful and expensive house, surrounded by the finest of farm buildings, and under altogether idyllic conditions. The country had been able to get settlers in parts of the south by this means, in face of the fact that reports had been sent into the Government of the Northwest Territories at Regina, stating that these lands were not fit for agriculture.

"Misrepresentation carried on by immigration authorities caused many people not adapted to our conditions to come and to bring those who could have made good to settle in the wrong districts," said Mr. Sparks, "with the result that in some districts today we find the man's courage gone, the woman broken in health, and the future dark, because they had been dumped into a country where they could not make good. All these things impose new burdens on the settlers in the better districts." The Dominion Government did not feel its responsibility even now.

PROPAGANDA WHICH MUST BE CONDEMNED

Another failure in settlement policy was the Soldiers' Settlement Board scheme and another was the notorious Cow Bill. Mr. Sparks described the experiences of British harvesters brought in two years ago, who were told that they could earn \$6 a day at once, without experience, and in many cases left comparatively good jobs on the strength of these false representations. This sort of misrepresentation could not be condemned in terms too strong.

Mr. Sparks remarked that the trouble largely arose "out of the enthusiastic schemes of some swivel chair experts." Referring to the survey being carried on in Southern Alberta, he remarked that the testimony of technical men was of less value than the experience of men who had lived for years in the country, and were able to give hard-headed honest information. It was all very well to say that there was a fine wheat soil. The settlers all knew that many years ago but they also knew that there were such things as hot winds.

GO SLOW, IS ADVICE OF MEMBER

"Let us go slow in getting immigrants," was Mr. Sparks' advice. "One satisfied settler is better than two or three who pull up and go to the city after a year or two."

In conclusion Mr. Sparks appealed to members on all sides of the Assembly to get together, and try to avoid useless political amendments and "quibbling over political piffles", and

get down to the serious and non-partisan discussion of the serious problems with which the Province is confronted.

Expressing his belief that one of the biggest questions before the Government was that of making revenues meet expenditures, Robert Pearson, Calgary (Independent), said that the Government would not be doing its duty if it did not provide for depreciation on such plant as the telephones, etc. Taking \$1,500,000 as the railway deficit, \$600,000 on general revenue, \$400,000 lost through disallowance of the Mineral Tax Act, and \$200,000 telephone deficit, Captain Pearson said the full amount of all the deficits was \$3,000,000.

IGNORANT CRITICS OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

"This Government has done a great deal to reduce expenditure," said Captain Pearson. "It has probably gone as far as it is possible to go in such reductions. There are a great many people who do not know anything about Provincial affairs, who will say, when you meet them on the street, 'Why does not the Government run its affairs like my business?'" The fact of the matter was, said the Independent member, that these people did not realize the situation in the least. If the Government cut down important services ruthlessly, as some ignorant critics suggested, payment for these services would have to be made in some other way. He alluded to such services as hospitals and education and others.

Captain Pearson did not think there was such a demand for general reductions of salaries and indemnities as some people imagined. From his own observation he knew that when some school boards had made reductions in salaries as a bid for popular approval, the subsequent action of the electors at the polls had not been in accordance with expectations.

MUCH SURPRISED BY LIBERAL AMENDMENT

Turning to the seat occupied by C. R. Mitchell, Captain Pearson said he was surprised that the amendment to the address to reduce the sessional indemnity should have come from the Liberal benches, as a proposal of this character, he understood, had been voted down at the Liberal convention. Asked to confirm this statement, Mr. Mitchell replied "Yes", adding that the convention, however, did go on record in favor of economy.

"Perhaps," remarked Captain Pearson, "perhaps the honorable member's explanation will be that he is not bound by the decisions of the Liberal convention, as U. F. A. members are by the decisions of theirs." Captain Pearson said that he did not expect to be a member of the next Assembly. Thus the proposal on the indemnity did not specially concern him personally.

The Independent member proceeded to state that as the result of personal investigation he knew that some hundreds of thousands of dollars had been saved by the Government in the cutting down of expenditures. He could not see where further cuts could be made, and it would be most unwise to cut down the grants to hospitals and schools.

SHOULD INCREASE REVENUES BY INCOME TAX

Since expenditures could not be cut down further, revenues must be increased,

and to this end Captain Pearson said that an income tax, which secured revenue from the people best able to pay, was highly desirable.

Captain Pearson said he had made some inquiries while in the East as to the attitude of loan companies to the Alberta laws, and found that there was not much objection to existing priorities, but that there was very strong objection to existing legislation affecting the personal covenant in mortgages.

The member said he was glad that the Government were going into the subject of the Lethbridge Northern irrigation project in a thorough manner.

Speaking of the problem of unemployment, he said that he wished responsibility in this matter could be more definitely placed.

Expressing surprise that some U. F. A. members should have advised a policy of going slow in immigration, Stanley Tobin, Leduc (Liberal), remarked that Alberta had a population of only two persons to the square mile, while Belgium had 500 to the square mile, and various other countries had as dense or even denser populations.

Mr. Enzenauer: "Will the honorable member state if the economic level of the people is as high in Belgium as in Canada?"

Mr. Tobin: "What does the honorable member mean by economic level?"

Mr. Enzenauer: "Standard of living."

Mr. Tobin, after some hesitation: "I think it is higher."

Mr. Enzenauer rejoined, amid laughter: "If they had that higher economic level, what object could they have in coming to Canada?"

OBJECTS TO "U. F. A." REPRESENTATION

Mr. Tobin went on to raise objection to the use of the term "U. F. A." as applied to any members, declaring that they should "represent all the people." He remarked that \$17,000,000 had been added to the public debt since the present Government took office. "There can be no kick coming, and I have no objection, if I find out where the money was spent, and that it was spent wisely," declared the member.

"Well," said Mr. Hoadley, "what concealment has the Government been guilty of?"

Mr. Tobin rejoined that for his own part he did not know how the money had been spent.

Condemning the resolution calling for the elimination of all expenditure on immigration propaganda, passed by the U. F. A. Convention in January, Mr. Tobin asked "where was the Premier when the resolution on immigration was passed? Why, in view of the splendid speech on this subject which he delivered in the East, did he not intervene to defeat this resolution?"

Mr. Tobin then went on to declare that the U. F. A. Convention had been dominated by the representatives of the Government and by the Federal and Provincial members, the delegates being "afraid to pass resolutions which the Government might not approve."

The member for Leduc condemned a speech which had been made by a Progressive party member in another Province in favor of secession, addressing himself in an accusatory way to the U. F. A. Government benches.

Speaking of rural credits, he read a resolution on this subject which he had formerly introduced in the Legislature,

and claimed that this had been productive of good results.

Discussing the agreement which had been arrived at in regard to the Natural Resources, Mr. Tobin wondered why the offer had not been accepted two years ago. Why, he asked, did the Government wait until there was an election in sight? He remarked that the conclusion of the agreement did not end the matter, as no one knew what the Federal Parliament would do.

HOW WILL THE GOVERNMENT SIDESTEP?

Mr. McKeen: "I should like to know how the Dominion Government is going to sidestep now."

Mr. Tobin said that if the Government built only 15 or 20 miles of the Lacombe railway this year, the situation would only be "aggravated", as the first 20 miles traversed the worst and most unprofitable territory. Asked by Mr. Hoadley whether he meant that it would be better not to build at all than to build only 20 miles, the member said he was not opposing this construction, but wanted more. While he was not in favor of a general policy of railway development by the Provincial Government, "this", said he, "is an exceptional railway, and we have an exceptional Minister of Railways".

Mr. Tobin hoped that the U. F. A. Government would not take the old Liberal Governments as standards to live up to, but would aim to attain to a higher standard.

Mr. Tobin made the assertion that the advisory board appointed in connection with highways construction had been appointed by drawing five names out of a hat.

"NEVER LOADED GUNS FOR OTHERS TO SHOOT"

Referring in his opening remarks to the elevation of J. R. Boyle to the bench, George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture, said he had always admired one quality in the former leader—his courage. "He never loaded guns for others that he was afraid to shoot himself. He never asked anyone else to say what he was not willing to say himself. He used all his ammunition, and did not, like my honorable friend opposite (glancing at the place of the new Liberal leader), use a toy pistol and put a squib in it."

Mr. Hoadley said that none understood better than the Liberal leader that the amendment which he had moved to the address was a vote of want of confidence. Everyone had been watching for the first day of the new leadership, to see how it would prove itself, and all that came of that first day was the moving of an abortive amendment to the address.

Speaking of the allusions which had been made by Mr. Dechene to his former connection with the Conservative party, Mr. Hoadley said he was not ashamed of this. The one thing which would be legitimate cause for shame would be that as a citizen he should not have devoted some time to the study of public and legislative questions. Until he joined the U. F. A. he had as much right to belong to a party as any other person. Many present members of the U. F. A. had formerly been associated with one or the other of the political parties.

"I plead with my honorable friend," said Mr. Hoadley, "not to blast the hopes of his young colleague from Grouard,

Mr. Giroux, because we were old associates in the Conservative party."

Mr. Giroux, who had not hitherto spoken in the Assembly, protested, blushing, and asked for evidence.

RECORDS SHOW MEMBERSHIP IN CONSERVATIVE PARTY

If there had not been a fire in Edmonton to destroy the records, Mr. Hoadley replied, these records were available and would show that Mr. Giroux was formerly associated with a Conservative club in this city. And then there was Mr. Mills, the Liberal whip, who was formerly a Conservative and not ashamed of it.

R. C. Marshall, Calgary (Liberal): "Have you left the Tory party now?"

Mr. Hoadley: "Yes."

IS FEDERAL "OFFER" ONLY A "GESTURE"?

Mr. Hoadley recalled the fact that Liberal leaders in the Assembly had been the first to announce the intention of the Dominion Government to disallow the Mineral Tax Act, and so, at the instance of powerful corporations, to deprive the Province of a large revenue. In the same way the Liberal member for Leduc had in his speech now notified the Province that it might not get the Natural Resources, because of difficulties that might arise. In other words, said Mr. Hoadley, he had intimated that there was no intention to give Alberta the Resources, but that the promise of the Federal Government was only a "gesture".

Speaking of Mr. Tobin's allusions to secession talk, Mr. Hoadley remarked, "You will hear more talk on secession in Eastern than in Western Canada, and that not by some irresponsible individual merely."

The Minister of Agriculture then humorously called attention to the habit of the Liberals of discovering, first in one quarter and then in another, someone who "dominated" the Government. Last year it had been H. W. Wood. This year it was Hoadley and Dr. Stewart. The Minister hoped that in due course the Liberals "would arrive at a true understanding of the fact (indicating the Premier) that the Government rests under the hand of my honorable friend."

CONDITIONS OF SUCCESS IN CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING

Discussing co-operative marketing, Mr. Hoadley said that this could not be successful unless three conditions were fulfilled: (a) the products should be of a sufficiently high quality; (b) they should be of standardized quality; (c) they should be of a sort for which there was a sufficient demand, in other words, there must be a market.

Denmark Model for Co-operators, Geo. Hoadley Declares

New Health Activities Planned—Marshall Continues Party Attack and Adjourns Debate

THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, February 26th.—Briefly reviewing the inspiring story of the rehabilitation of Danish agriculture and rural life through the development of co-operative institutions, and the dominant position which co-operative enterprise now occupies in the life of Den-

mark, George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture, in continuing the debate on the address today, described in detail the methods followed in agricultural organization in that country, where producers receive 75 per cent. of the final price at which the product of their creameries is sold to the consumer on the home and British market, and similar proportions of the final receipts for other products also go into the pockets of the primary producers. Mr. Hoadley also outlined important new developments in the work of the Department of Public Health, of which he has charge, and touched upon the general situation in agriculture in Alberta. R. C. Marshall, Calgary (Liberal), was the other speaker of the day. He devoted the greater part of his speech to matters of party politics.

COUNTRY LEAST DISTURBED BY WORLD WAR

Mr. Hoadley opened with an account of his recent visit to the Empire exhibition at Wembley, and then passed on to a description of the conditions which he had found in the home of co-operation, Denmark, where, he said, under the pressure of hard necessity, and desperate financial conditions, the farmers were compelled to organize, and today, as the outcome of many years of persistent effort, they have "got away from the evils of landlordism", and established their economic and community life on a sound basis. "All the tragic circumstances of the world war," said the Minister, "affected Denmark less than any other country, and there was less disturbance of the economic life of the Danes than in that of any other people in the world. This was a consequence of the establishment of the life of the people on the basis of co-operation."

"It seems to me that some of the matters that must receive consideration may be brought more forcibly to our minds by a brief consideration of the history of co-operative activities in the little kingdom of Denmark, how they came to be operated, what the effect has been, not only on their financial conditions, but on the whole life of the people of the kingdom of Denmark."

"First of all let us realize the size of Denmark, and the population of Denmark, and the fact that fertilizer is an absolute necessity in producing crops there; that 60 per cent. of all cereals used for all various purposes of the life of the country, is produced from without; and that 90 per cent. of all exports from the kingdom of Denmark are agricultural."

DENMARK HAS UNIFORM SYSTEM OF FARMING

"Danish agriculture is characterized by a uniform system of farming practised throughout the country. The plan of crop production is uniform, with the exception of a few sections where, on some farms, seed production, sugar-beet growing, or horse raising is a specialty, and on practically all Danish farms the primary aim in the management of the individual farm is to keep dairy cows, grow the bacon type of hogs, and raise chickens."

"In the development of the new Danish agriculture, dairying plays the leading part, and the primary aim in Danish land utilization is the growing of forage, roots, and grain crops for feeding pur-

(Continued on page 11)

Intensive Campaign for Membership in New Co-operative Pools Commences March 7th

Joint Meetings in Behalf of All Three Pools Will Be Addressed by U. F. A. Directors and Directors of the New Marketing Pools at Many Points During the Present Month—Schedule of Meetings to Date

Commencing on March 7th, and continuing throughout the month, an intensive campaign for membership in all three of the new Co-operative Marketing Pools—Poultry and Eggs, Dairy and Livestock—will be carried on throughout the Province, a series of meetings being held at a large number of important points on main and branch lines as well as in isolated districts. A schedule of the meetings which have so far been arranged is given below.

ALL THREE POOLS TO BE DISCUSSED JOINTLY

The speakers at these meetings will be members of the Provisional Boards of the Pools, Directors of the U. F. A., and members of the Legislative Assembly. It is announced that two speakers will visit each point at which a meeting is to be held, and that all three Pools will be discussed, and a concentrated drive launched along each line as soon as the Campaign Committees have been

appointed at the meetings. The assistance of a large number of voluntary workers will be necessary, and the Pool Boards state that the enthusiasm which is displayed in the country has given great encouragement to those who will be primarily responsible for the campaign arrangements, and that there is every reason to anticipate a very general response to the call for assistance.

In this issue we publish a list of meetings to be held on the Calgary and Edmonton line of the C. P. R.; the main line of the G. T. P.; the C. P. R. Hardisty line, and the main line of the C. N. R. The meetings will be extended to branch lines and to isolated districts during the next three weeks, arrangements also being made for meetings from March 9th to 13th northwest of Edmonton, from March 9th to 20th on the Coronation line, and from March 9th to 13th on the St. Paul line. The special campaign will be extended to the southern

part of the Province as soon as arrangements can be made for speakers to cover the various districts.

Among the speakers are Messrs. S. S. Sears, G. Bevington, J. Slattery, W. F. Stevens, and A. B. Claypool, M.L.A., for the Livestock Pool; Messrs. E. R. Rasmussen, N. S. Smith, M.L.A., R. A. Van Slyke, D. J. Christie, Keyes Cullen, and J. R. Love, M.L.A., for the Dairy Pool; Mesdames F. E. Wyman, M. L. Sears, H. E. G. H. Scholefield, R. B. Gunn, Bellamy, and H. C. McDaniel for the Egg and Poultry Pool, and representatives of the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. Boards. The representatives of the U. F. A. Board are Mrs. Gunn, Mrs. Scholefield, A. F. Aitken and S. J. Ewing, and of the U. F. W. A. Board, Mrs. R. Price, Mrs. W. Ross, Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, Mrs. J. W. Field, Mrs. Postans.

Meetings on the C. and E. line will be held on Saturday, March 7th; on the G. T. P., Saturday, March 14th; on the C. P. R. Hardisty line, Saturday, March 21st, and on the C. N. R. Lloydminster line, Saturday, March 28th.

The schedule for the meetings, as arranged to date, is as follows. The names of speakers at each meeting will be given later.

Calgary and Edmonton Line, C. P. R. (March 7th)

Leduc, 2 p.m.; Millet, 8 p.m.; Wetaskiwin, 2 p.m.; Ponoka, 2 p.m.; Lacombe, 2 p.m.; Blackfalds, 8 p.m.; Red Deer, 2 p.m.; Penhold, 8 p.m.; Innisfail, 8 p.m.; Bowden, 2 p.m.; Didsbury, 2 p.m.; Airdrie, 2 p.m.; Carstairs, 2 p.m.

G. T. P. Main Line (March 14th)

Cooking Lake, Tofield, Riley, Holden, Bruce, Viking, Kinsella, Irma, Wainwright, Chauvin.

C. P. R. Hardisty Line (March 21st)

Camrose, Bawlf, Daysland, Strome, Killam, Sedgewick, Loughheed, Hardisty, Provost.

C. N. R. Main Line (March 28th)

Fort Saskatchewan, Bruderheim, Lamont, Chipman, Vegreville, Innisfree, Mannville, Vermilion, Kitscoty.

GADSBY LAKE LOCAL ORGANIZED

A. M. Crown was the organizer in charge of Gadsby Lake Local, and was elected president, with Henry Bromley secretary. Meetings will be held in Gadsby Lake schoolhouse.

EQUALIZATION OF ACREAGE

In Mr. R. O. German's reply to the letter of Mr. D. Raina, Hanna, published in the February 25th issue of "The U. F. A." under the heading "Pools and the Principle of One Man One Vote," the last paragraph should have read as follows:

"So that it will appear that the equalization of ACREAGE will tend to eliminate the present wide discrepancy in the number of members between districts."

Have you sent in your contribution to the Junior Conference Fund?

Estimated Deficit for 1924 Reduced by \$38,166.67

Public Accounts Tabled by Provincial Treasurer Reveal Improved Position—Government Presents Detailed Statement of Surplus or Deficit on Income Account for Each Year Since 1905—Total Accumulated Deficit on Income Account \$4,729,489

Special Correspondence.

EDMONTON, March 4th.—The Public Accounts tabled in the Legislature this afternoon by R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, show a deficit for 1924 of \$620,841.42, as compared with the estimated deficit of \$659,008.09, which is less than the estimate by \$38,166.67. The estimated expenditure was \$11,821,019.19, and the actual expenditure \$11,127,468.55, or \$693,550.64 less than the estimate. After providing for expenditure on special warrant of \$109,765.12, the actual expenditure is less than the estimated expenditure by \$583,785.52.

The actual revenue was \$10,506,627.13, as compared with an estimated revenue of \$11,052,345.62, or \$545,718.49 less than the estimate.

The total public debt, net after deducting sinking fund, is \$76,911,944, corresponding to this amount being the following assets: public buildings and works, \$24,624,000; telephone plant, \$20,073,000; advances to railways, \$14,032,000; repayable advances and loans, \$6,838,000; cash, \$1,552,000; advance to University, \$2,868,000, and other items.

The balance sheet shows the debenture debt, and assets to offset this debt, and is the first ever presented by any Government of the Province.

Included in the public accounts is a report describing the change in the accounting system of the Province which has been adopted. From January 1st, 1924, the accounts were placed on a revenue and expenditure basis under which revenue consists of actual cash only, but for purposes of control uncollected revenue is taken and carried as an asset on the balance sheet, (although this revenue is not taken into account as revenue for the year); the expenditure includes liabilities incurred but not paid during the fiscal year. This prevents accounts from being held over from one year to another as under the old system, when it was possible by this means to defeat the purpose of the estimates.

A statement in the public accounts shows the surplus or deficit on income account for each year since 1905.

The statement shows the accumulated deficit of the Province on income account from the formation of the Province in 1905 to date. This debt is \$4,729,489.

There is a detailed statement of all money spent under special warrant, the total being \$225,000, on income and property, for 1924.

PROVINCIAL EXPENDITURE, 1924

	Actual	Estimated
Public Debt	\$3,802,171.87	\$4,056,653.16
Legislation	188,054.77	194,263.33
Executive Council	249,382.33	280,237.09
Dept. Agriculture	549,886.50	624,283.73
Attorney-General's Dept.	1,456,079.45	1,572,185.40
Dept. of Education	2,008,504.24	2,082,283.66
Dept. Provincial Secretary	54,592.55	56,604.16
Dept. Municipal Affairs	220,658.97	244,140.84
Dept. Public Health	807,575.03	835,394.94
Dept. Public Works	1,483,686.30	1,542,221.53
Dept. Railways & Telephones		
(Railways Branch)	33,283.70	42,625.00
Dept. Provincial Treasurer	273,592.84	290,126.35

Interim Payment of 35 Cents a Bushel Made by Wheat Pool to Members

Will Take at Least Three Weeks to Complete Mailing of Approximately 30,000 Cheques—Payment Made Only on Interim Coupons—
Official Statement from the Pool Head Office.

Starting March 2nd, interim payment cheques are being sent out to members of the Alberta Wheat Pool, on the basis of 35c per bushel on all grades. This payment is being made only on interim coupons that have been surrendered to the Pool and checked against deliveries.

Disbursements of this payment involves issuing of approximately 30,000 cheques and will take at least three weeks to complete mailing.

On March 16th initial payment will be increased to \$1.35, basis No. 1 Northern, Vancouver.

Any members who have not sent in their interim coupons, in connection with the payment now being made, are requested to do so at once to the Wheat Pool Office, 226 Loughheed Building, Calgary.

In a statement issued at Winnipeg, Colin H. Burnell, President of the Manitoba Wheat Pool, announced that approximately \$30,000,000 would be distributed to 92,000 farmers in the three Western Pools, this month.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 3)

vote him a pension of \$5,000 annually. That is one vote which the most fanatical devotee of "economy" will not begrudge. If Dr. Saunders had capitalized his discovery on "business" principles he would have been a man of untold wealth. But this type of good citizen never understands business principles.

* * *

THE GOLD STANDARD (Ottawa Citizen)

When George Stephenson first appeared before the Parliamentary Committee in Great Britain a hundred years ago, he received very little more support than Major C. H. Douglas did when he appeared before the Banking and Commerce Committee in Ottawa two years ago. But when the time comes, someone like Douglas, Reginald McKenna, Henry Ford or Professor Frederick Soddy will be called in to discuss the necessary readjustment in banking and commerce.

In the meanwhile, people think that the gold standard is best. So long as there is general satisfaction with results, bankers will do all they can to keep it going. What more could they be expected to do?

* * *

THE NATURAL RESOURCES (Alberta Labor News)

The important fact of the natural resources question is that the Provincial Government will soon be charged with the responsibility of administering the natural wealth of the Province. Whether that fact will mean very much for the people of Alberta will depend entirely on whether or not the resources are administered in the interests of the people. If the natural wealth is to be administered for the benefit of profit-making corporations, if the resources are to be used for the benefit of the few, then the people as a whole will reap little satisfaction from the change of administration from the hands of one Government to another. On the other hand, if the wealth which nature has provided, and which is properly the heritage of the people, is administered in the interests of the people as a whole, there is room for rejoicing over the transfer of the natural resources.

* * *

"One of the greatest defects of the League of Nations, as it is now constituted—and this was the most conspicuous feature of the Geneva meeting last autumn—is the tendency to regard itself as an alliance of victorious peoples who must maintain the spoils of victory at all costs against the defeated peoples, and while admitting these defeated peoples into their midst, do so on the understanding that there shall be no revision of treaties, that what has been acquired, rightly or wrongly, must not be disturbed."—Stisley Huddleston, of Paris, in "The New Republic", New York.

ANOTHER OPPONENT OF DUTY

Declaring that any restrictions in the way of an export duty will be detri-

mental to the producers and will react directly against them, Midnapore and Red Deer Lake Local passed a resolution "vigorously protesting against the imposition of any export duty on grain." The resolution protests further against any special privilege being granted to elevators in the matter of car distribution, as was recommended in the Turgeon report.

BONNIE BRIER ELECTS PRESIDENT

At its first meeting in the year 1925, Bonnie Brier Local elected L. S. Fownes as president and H. L. Simmons as secretary.

RAISE FUNDS BY SOCIALS

Members of Burnside Local pay \$2 in fees, and raise by socials, picnics, etc., the necessary funds for the Local as well as Provincial and Federal Constituency Association dues. The annual financial report showed a balance in hand of \$76.74 at the end of the year.

DISTRICT ASSN. MEETS

Bow Valley U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. District Association will meet at Carse-land on March 7th, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

DENMARK MODEL FOR CO-OPERATIVES, GEO. HOADLEY DECLARES

(Continued from page 9)

poses. A surplus of grain for sale occurs only on a few large estate farms. CO-OPERATIVELY ORGANIZED FROM EVERY ANGLE

"One of the remarkable facts that you discover when you go to Denmark, is that the produce of the land is co-operatively organized from every angle that touches intimately on the produce of the farm. They have co-operative Dairies, Bacon Factories, Cheese Factories, Cement Factories, Coal, Fertilizer, Seed Growing, Agricultural Supplies, Cattle and Eggs.

"The one item of Agricultural Supplies embraces all kinds of feed stuffs required for the dairy cattle, hogs, horses, sheep, etc., as well as cereals for human consumption. A total of 60 per cent. of all these supplies which are used in the kingdom of Denmark, are purchased from outside, the bulk of the grains from this continent.

ACTIVITIES OF CATTLE EXPORT ASSOCIATIONS

"Let us take first of all the activity of beef cattle as handled by the Co-operative Cattle Export Assn. The first

one was formed in 1898, and in 1922 six great co-operative cattle export associations had an aggregate membership of 25,000 and handled between one-quarter and one-third of the Danish export of beef cattle. Each one of these associations functions independently, but they have formed one National Federation called the National Federation of Danish Cattle Export Associations, the purpose of which association is to promote the common interest of the cattle export business rather than to do actual trading.

IMPROVEMENT IN TYPE OF BACON HOG

"The great improvement in quality and type achieved in the Danish swine industry in the last thirty years has no parallel in any other country. Rather than go over to a new breed of the bacon type, the Danish farmers chose to improve the native breed to meet the demand of the English market. In the improvement of the native breed called 'Dansk Landrase' the aim has been two-fold—to produce a quality of bacon satisfactory to the English market, and to retain thriftiness, prolificacy and hardy characteristics demanded by the farmer.

"The native breed is a white hog of the bacon type, long, fairly fine boned and skin, well developed muscles over the back and the belly, and fairly good hams. Few pure bred Yorkshire pigs are bred in Denmark.

"Early experimental work shows that the best bacon hog produced in Denmark for the British market was the first cross from a Danish native sow with an English Yorkshire boar.

"To practise this plan of pig breeding it is necessary to provide some means of keeping each breed pure. According to Prof. Morkeberg's plan, the individuals in each breed possessing superior fertility, quality of bacon and economy in feeding, are collected and bred in their respective breeding centres. These herds are controlled by the expert supervision of a special committee appointed jointly by the Government and the National Federation of Co-operative Bacon Factories. A small annual Government appropriation helps to support the work.

"In 1922 and 1923 there were 150 breeding centres for the native breed and 32 for the Yorkshire.

"Bacon factories are equally distributed more or less throughout the entire kingdom. Each plant draws its hogs from a limited territory. The average membership for each co-operative Bacon Factory Association is about 3,600 hog producers.

"One of the first bacon factories was erected at Horsens, Jutland Peninsula, in 1887, with 1,218 members, and 24,000 hogs were slaughtered the first year. In 1916, after 28 years of successful operation, it was rebuilt and now has a capacity of 3,000 hogs per week. The members are under contract agreement bound to deliver their hogs to the factory, and to guarantee the necessary loans for a period of seven years. Although the loan for building capital is made for a seven year period the amortization plan is based on two seven year periods. The members are jointly and severally liable for any deficit, and such deficit would be apportioned among the members according to the deliveries. However, the members have never had a deficit to pay during the 36 years. If a member violates the delivery pledge he is fined 10 Danish kroner (\$2.68) per hog.

FORTY-SIX PLANTS WITH 167,827 MEMBERS

"There are now 46 Co-operative Plants with 167,827 members. In 1914 Denmark slaughtered 2,858,294 hogs. Of these 2,434,615, or 85 per cent. of the total, were slaughtered in co-operative bacon factories. In 1922 there were slaughtered 2,215,423 hogs, and of these there were slaughtered in the 46 co-operative factories, 1,853,994, or 85.2 per cent.

"A common practice is to kill hogs three days each week. The greater proportion, as high as 75 per cent., are all delivered direct in wagons or trucks; consequently very little shrinkage and no losses in dead hogs occur. In live weight the hogs range between 176 and 220 lbs.; slaughtered carcasses between 132 and 165 lbs. A deduction of about 1c per lb. on the total weight is made when the hog is either below or above the required weight; when more than 20 lbs. over or below requirements this deduction is increased to 2c per lb.

DAIRY COWS GAVE AVERAGE OF 8,000 LBS.

"The first creamery was established in Denmark in 1882. Today co-operation handles 90 per cent. of the total milk production of the country. Ninety per cent. of the skim milk is returned to the farmer. Only 2.6 per cent. of the whole milk is sold as sweet milk and this is largely retailed in towns and cities. In 1921 only 9.7 per cent. of skim milk and 2.4 per cent. of sweet milk was used for making cheese, but now nearly one thousand creameries are equipped for cheese making. The dairy cows of Denmark gave an average production of milk in 1923 of 8,000 lbs. of milk each, and 3.8 of butterfat.

"Eleven co-operative marketing associations with a membership of 546 creameries handled over 82 million lbs. or 38.8 per cent. of Denmark's total butter export. The price paid for butter is based on the Copenhagen butter quotation, which is set every Thursday. A total of 71.4 per cent. of all their export butter goes to Great Britain.

CO-OPERATIVE BANK IS LEADING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

"The first Danish Co-operative Bank was opened in Aarhus, in October, 1914. The institution engages in all phases of banking business, besides the financing of the co-operative association to serve the needs of which as well as the whole agricultural industry, the central bank has established 48 branch banks, and 59 offices scattered throughout the kingdom. In addition to winning the foremost place among the leading banks in Denmark, the Co-operative Bank is the nation's clearing house for the financing of all agricultural exports. At present about 75 per cent. of the foreign money for Denmark's agricultural export comes through this bank.

"The group of co-operatives have formed federations for general service purposes. These federations work together through a Central Co-operative Council.

"The co-operative effort in the interest of the whole co-operative movement resulted in the formation of the central organization, the Federated Danish Co-operative Association in 1917. Its membership now comprises 16 co-operative federations and large co-operative enterprises such as the Danish Co-operative Bank. Its activities are directed by the Central Co-operative Council, whose membership is composed of re-

presentatives from the respective co-operative federations.

"After due allowance is made for other factors, the result of agricultural co-operation in Denmark has been twofold: (1) Standardized, high quality agricultural products have become a fundamental basis for efficient distribution through more direct marketing channels with costs reduced to a minimum; and (2) a rational adjustment has been made in farm production to meet better the consumers' demand in the modern markets.

"This co-operative organization, so successfully developed by the Danish farmers, rests fundamentally on a correct training in rural life. The Danish system of rural education supplies this unique training in scientific agriculture and rural citizenship. Her enlightened farm people, trained to rely on their own capacities, enable Denmark to pursue this rational policy in farm economics and progress in rural life.

"The co-operatives always meet on the ground of common economic interests. The movement rests on an intelligent membership, possessing a rational understanding of the meaning, responsibility and value of co-operation."

Mr. Hoadley said that Danish bacon occupied a dominant position in the British market, and declared that if the Alberta product were not standardized it could not receive the "export mark", and consequently could not command the prices which it should command.

WHY PRODUCERS GET HIGH RETURNS FOR PRODUCT

"There is no question there as to the money obtained from the consumer not going into the hands of the producer," remarked the Minister. "Why, the producer owns the plant, and has a stranglehold on the market. For his butter he gets thirty shillings a hundred more than the producer of any other country, New Zealand being the only country which approaches Denmark in this respect."

"How many millionaires are there in Denmark?" asked Mr. Washburn.

"I cannot answer that, but there are no over rich and no very poor," replied Mr. Hoadley.

"How about group government?" asked a Liberal member who had declared that the Danish success was due to the abandonment of "group government."

"The Danish Government," was the reply, "is a Government of groups, each acting for the interest it represents. The railways are operated for the service of the people of Denmark, and everything possible is done in the interests of the producer. The co-operatives only asked the Government not to pass legislation that would destroy co-operation."

In addition to the distinctively agricultural undertakings, said the Minister, the Danes owned their own co-operative cement factories, which cut the price to one-quarter its former level.

In conclusion the Minister said that success in co-operation in Denmark seemed to be an altogether different thing from success as understood in this country. "Unless you educate your people to the duties as well as the advantages of co-operation, you cannot have the success you should have. It is easy to talk of co-operation, but we have only just commenced."

Discussing the Department of Public Health, Mr. Hoadley said that a severe burden was imposed by the necessity for spending \$300,000 a year to take care of unfortunate people in Ponoka mental hospital and other institutions, as this large sum must be provided before any health activities of a general sort could be undertaken. It was impossible to find accommodation for more than a fraction of the defective children whom it was desirable to place in institutions.

In connection with the work in outlying districts, a dentist had been engaged and there were now six district nurses, travelling from place to place to render service. If sufficient money could be provided for two or three more nurses, eight more districts could be opened up for the work of the travelling dental clinic. These would be Mahaska, Neerlandia, Valhalla, Normandeau, Lac la Biche, and Milk River.

"We must have means of getting medical aid and dental facilities to the poor at any price they can afford to pay, and even if they cannot pay," said the Minister.

It was hoped, he said, to arrange for a more general use of anti-toxin and other serums, to supply anti-toxin free and have the medical inspector and a nurse assist the local doctor in immunizing the children. A method of immunizing against scarlet fever had also been devised, and would be made available.

It seemed desirable, said Mr. Hoadley, to create small stations of from six to ten beds, to be used for maternity hospitals, medical cases and very urgent operations. Alberta had the highest maternal death rate in Canada.

This year, it was stated, provision would be made for the grading of hospitals—"100 bed hospitals," "50 bed hospitals," "20 bed hospitals and under," the highest standard being demanded of the first.

The necessity for stricter supervision of hospitals was becoming more and more apparent. It was hoped that regulations might have the effect of preventing unnecessary operations, and it would be a great benefit to the smaller hospitals if a competent surgeon could be appointed to inspect them from time to time.

Mr. Hoadley announced that it was proposed to recommend to the Legislature an act to provide for the licensing and inspection of all private hospitals.

MARSHALL CONGRATULATES GOVERNMENT ON APPOINTMENTS

R. C. Marshall, in the course of his speech, paid a tribute to Commissioner Dinning of the Liquor Control Board, and congratulated Alex. Ross on the appointment of Mr. Davidson as chairman of the Highways Commission. He thanked the Government for having given some small help to the cities in the matter of unemployment, which had "become a social disease and a serious menace to our civilization." No Government could much longer ignore it, see the terrible hardship suffered by many men, and sit back complacently.

"What is the cause of unemployment?" asked Mr. Washburn.

Mr. Marshall: "I don't think anyone has got the cure yet."

The member urged that the Government get down to the study of this problem in as serious a spirit as that of the farmers in the attempt to solve the marketing problem.

Mr. Marshall urged that a committee of the Assembly should be appointed to decide whether the Spray Lakes project should be developed as a private enterprise, or whether its profits should go to the people. He protested that Mr. Hoadley had placed an improper interpretation on the words used by Mr. Tobin in the debate, in reference to the possibility of delay in securing the transfer of the natural resources.

Mr. Marshall contended that the Government had claimed an undue share of credit for the establishment of the Wheat Pool, whose establishment in 1923 was due, he said, to certain newspapers. He objected to the Government "insinuating itself into the Wheat Pool."

Mr. Hoadley pointed out that directors of the new co-operative pools were this session in conference with the Government.

Mr. Marshall: "Sapiro said the Government should keep out of it."

The Calgary member also claimed that the value of the work of the U.F.A. was ever-emphasized in this matter, as the U.F.A. had only about 16,000 members, and the Wheat Pool 30,000.

Mr. Marshall then devoted about fifteen minutes to the U.F.A. Convention, which he said, this year was "well managed and controlled," and so much so that as soon as the Federal members got back to Ottawa, "the trouble burst open again." He contrasted the U.F.A. Convention with that of the Liberals, much to the advantage of the latter, and told a thrilling story of a farmer in the far north who had, he said, sold a valuable cow in order to come down to Calgary and express his opposition to political action by the organized farmers.

Answering a bantering remark from the U.F.A. benches, Mr. Marshall exclaimed: "This member does not seem to know the difference between the Tories and the Liberals."

"There is none," "There is none," was the reply from many portions of the Assembly.

Discussing the sessional indemnity, Mr. Marshall said that Mr. Davidson's position could not be understood, and claimed that in view of the Moore-Love resolution, passed in 1921, a vote for the Liberal amendment would not be a vote of want of confidence in the Government. He understood that a cutting down of the indemnity would be taken by the public as a prelude to cutting down all round. The indemnity had been raised to \$2000 as a war measure only, in the last Legislature.

Crop Statistics Show "Drought" Districts Have Good Average

Members From Dried Out Areas Have
Important Suggestions—White Dis-
cusses Spray Lakes—Milnes
Charges Extravagance

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, February 27th—Referring to a remark of W. M. Davidson, that he would be willing to move a reduction in the indemnity at the proper time, R. C. Marshall, resuming the debate today, said that the Independent member had allowed a whole session to elapse since his first motion on this subject was introduced. Asked whether he had voted for Mr. Davidson's motion two years ago, Mr. Marshall replied "No, there was no vote taken."

"Were you in favor of it then?" asked Mr. Matheson. Mr. Marshall: "I am in favor of it now."

"How much reduction?"
"The motion says a 'substantial reduction.'"

A member: "The Liberal convention voted down a resolution to cut the indemnity."
REGRETS FRITTERING OF TIME
ON PARTY POLITICS

"It is highly regrettable," declared F. J. White, Calgary (Labor), "that this debate has wandered far away from the temperate speeches with which it opened." He deplored the devotion of the time of the Assembly by some members to futile and insincere political recrimination, for window dressing purposes. Commending the Government for the work which it had done in endeavoring to cope with the problem of the drought stricken areas, he regretted that the same determination had not been displayed to deal in a constructive way with the pressing problem of unemployment. The Government should seek so to mobilize work that when private employers were slack Government work could be undertaken. The wages of 35 cents an hour paid by the Government were far from adequate to provide men engaged in seasonal occupations with means of keeping themselves through the winter.

Mr. White cited statistics showing that

81 cases of frostbite had occurred among unemployed men who, in a temperature of 40 degrees below zero, and scantily clad, took emergency work to show their willingness to make a contribution to the public welfare. In Calgary there were, in consequence, six permanent amputation cases in the hospitals, one man losing eight fingers, others three fingers, some losing toes, and one losing both feet. None of these men could obtain workmen's compensation, and he urged the adoption of an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act which would be retroactive, to establish their legitimate claims.

PUBLIC OR PRIVATE POWER DEVELOPMENT?

Urging the Government to retain the natural resources for the benefit of the people, and not for any private corporation, Mr. White called attention to the fact that the three alternative schemes for the development of Spray Lakes all took it for granted that if the Government developed the project it would buy out the rights of the company which now has a plant in operation. Going into the technical side of the question, he said that if this plan was followed, \$4,778,000 being paid to the company on their claim for payment of replacement value, power could be developed at \$148 per unit, whereas, if the Government went ahead with its own plant, leaving out the company, the cost would be only \$79.89. He urged the Government not to allow any special tenderness for corporate interests to allow them to make any but the most advantageous deal for the people. If the company would sell out at a satisfactory price, they might be bought out, but not otherwise. Mr. White regretted that the experts had not submitted figures on the actual cost of a scheme which left out the existing company, and urged that the whole question of Spray Lakes power be referred to a special committee of the Assembly.

The alternative of government regulation of a private enterprise was not as a rule satisfactory, as shown by past experience. The gas company supplying the city of Calgary, for instance, was subject to regulation. Its capital had been reduced to \$2,500,000, the company buying out bondholders out of the profits obtained from the consumer. In consequence, while it was paying to stockholders 8 per cent. on a supposed capital of \$7,000,000, on the actual capital it was paying three times 8 per cent.

"I do not think it possible to get proper safeguards in any agreement between a private corporation and a Government," said Mr. White, "since the body that enters into the agreement for the Government is not the body that interprets it. It may be interpreted by the courts, or by a new Government."

Mr. White strongly opposed the suggestion of Mr. Dechene that mineral rights should be given to all landowners, in the minerals underlying their lands. The natural resources were not created by man, but by nature, and should be the property of all the people.

MAY BE LIABILITY FOR SOME YEARS TO COME

"Let bygones be bygones" should be the slogan of the Legislature insofar as the political aspects of the natural resources question were concerned. "We must recognize, frankly, that these resources will probably be a liability for some time, but we should attempt to conserve them for posterity; there should be no giving away of the resources for private exploitation, as eventually they will be of immense value."

Announcing his intention to vote against the Liberal amendment, Mr. White said he had never recommended a cut in salaries, and that a member who devoted the time to the interests of his constituents which it was his duty to do twelve months in the year, and not merely during the session, earned every cent.

"I suggest," he remarked, "that we try the experiment of going before the country, not as Liberals or Conservatives, or U.F.A., or Labor, at the next election, but as 'Two Thousand Dollar Men', 'Eighteen Hundred

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BANKING AND CREDIT

The U. F. A. Central Office has on hand a number of books and pamphlets on banking and credit questions. A few of these are listed below:

CARTESIAN ECONOMICS, by Professor Frederick Soddy, M.A., F.R.S. Price 20 cents.

THE INVERSION OF SCIENCE, by Professor Frederick Soddy, M.A., F.R.S. Price 20 cents.

These are two lucidly written pamphlets on credit reform, by a leading authority on this subject.

PURCHASING POWER AND THE WORLD PROBLEM, by William Irvine, M.P.
Pamphlet No. 1. Price 5 cents.
Pamphlet No. 2. Price 5 cents.

THE DEADLOCK IN FINANCE, by Major Arthur E. Powell. Explains in very simple terms the principles of credit reform. Price \$1.50.

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Dollar Men', and 'Men Who Desire to Work for Nothing', and see what the electors have to say to that."

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE UNIVERSITY

Mr. White then called the attention of the Government to a case in which, he said, there was "a tendency to limit freedom of speech in so far as the University was concerned." A member of the faculty, at great expense to himself, had made certain inquiries in other countries in regard to economic matters, and had returned to Canada and made two speeches, giving the result of his research, and his personal conclusions. A protest was registered against these opinions, and he was instructed by a higher authority not to continue to give addresses on the subject of his inquiry.

The member remarked that as a result of the dependence of many universities in the United States on endowment by financial interests, curtailment of freedom of speech had reached very serious proportions, but he did not believe that in a publicly endowed educational institution such as the University of Alberta, any University authority should say to a member of the faculty, "As a professor in this University you cannot be allowed free expression." Mr. White suggested that the faculty themselves should form the head of the University, a somewhat similar plan to that of English and other European universities being adopted.

MILNES CHARGES GOVERNMENT EXTRAVAGANT

T. C. Milnes, member for Claresholm, who has now joined the Liberal party caucus, in a brief speech charged the Government with extravagance, stating that the total direct liability of the Province was now in excess of \$100,000,000, to which must be added the guarantee of irrigation bonds. The budget was not being balanced. He regretted that the Government, after a proposal to give \$5000 to the Edmonton Newsboys' band had failed to meet with the approval of the Legislature last session, had given a grant, which was for a smaller amount, \$2000.

In the Public Works Department in 1922, out of \$229,900.78 spent on highway construction, 20 per cent. was for expenses, while of the \$57,395.43 for maintenance, 11 1/4 per cent. went in expenses. The Survey Board had spent \$20,000 in 1923 as compared with \$14,000 in 1921. The Province was getting only 75 to 80 cents on the dollar for money spent.

The Province, said Mr. Milnes, was overloaded with Commissioners—a Labor Commissioner at \$2000, a Highways Commissioner at \$4000 and so forth while the special audit made in 1921 cost \$40,000.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Mr. Milnes then proceeded to read items from the account submitted to the Government by the chartered accountants who made the audit. Two of the auditors lived in Calgary and incurred travelling expenses of \$258.50 in one month. The total amount paid for senior and junior and principal auditors was \$39,244.50, and all the necessary help could have been secured for \$15,478.39. Junior assistants were charged for by the chartered accountants at \$14 per day, and seniors at \$21 per day. From October, 1921, to August, 1922, travelling expenses totalled \$1,564.26.

W. C. SMITH PLEADS FOR DROUGHT STRICKEN DISTRICTS

W. C. Smith, Redcliff (U.F.A.), said that school inspection had improved in spite of the reduction in the number of inspectors. He hoped the time would come when every child would be able, in the rural districts, to get a full year's education every year up to grade eight. He contended that the cost of education should be a Provincial charge.

Referring to Mr. Marshall's "hero" who sold a cow to go to the Liberal convention, Mr. Smith said he could cite common instances in which men were urged to go to the convention, and told by those who handle the Liberal party funds: "We'll

pay the railway expenses, and your living expenses, and give you a good time too."

Mr. Smith proposed that power should be given to those responsible for the distribution of general relief in the drought affected districts, to give seed grain and feed relief as well. He pointed out that conditions in recent years had been exceptional, and that 1924 in his constituency was, according to those who had lived there 36 years, the driest they had ever experienced.

In 1917 the people were getting ahead. He was proud of the spirit displayed by the people, and especially by the women, who last year, when large numbers of men left the farms to get work elsewhere, carried on all the work of the farms themselves.

At the Medicine Hat meeting addressed by Charles Stewart, Mr. Smith had been disappointed, in that while the Minister of the Interior devoted a great deal of time to denouncing "the badness of the Tories", there was not one word about the condition of the people of the country.

Mr. Smith thought there were "certain obstacles in the way of carrying out Mr. Stewart's proposal regarding combined irrigated land and grazing leases for the settlers, as 160 acres of irrigated land was as much as a farmer could handle, without travelling considerable distances to leased land. The ranchers, as well as the farmers, were "broke". The whole responsibility for this district should be taken by the Dominion Government, as that Government was responsible for bringing the people in.

Close grouping of settlers, in order that they might have a chance to operate schools, was advocated by the member as a desirable feature of any plan for the introduction of a system of small grazing leases. He asked that there should be a smaller tax on leases by the Provincial Government, and that the new assessments should apply in 1925 instead of 1926. The Acting Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs had stated that the C.P.R. was not taxed so highly as the rest, because it was known that if this were done the C.P.R. would appeal to the courts, and the taxes be reduced.

"In common justice and common humanity," he concluded, "we should see that the people of this district have a chance."

SHOWS CROP AVERAGE HIGH IN AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Expressing complete agreement with Mr. Smith as to the desirability of a system of "grouping" of settlers, Lorne Proudfoot, Acadia (U.F.A.), said that this was made possible by the Community Grazing Act passed by the present Government. The people could not be expected to live in an isolated condition. At the discretion of the Minister of the Interior certain lands might be turned back to grazing, and the member asked that the Provincial Department of Agriculture press vigorously for this to be done, Mr. Hoadley replying that such action was now being taken.

Mr. Proudfoot challenged the idea which was being disseminated in some financial quarters, that the Acadia constituency was not fit for farming, and he cited detailed statistics of crop production which lent powerful support to his claim. He showed that whereas the average production of spring wheat for the Province during the years 1912 to 1923 was 20.40 bushels, the average for Acadia was 16.06, for the neighboring constituency of Coronation 16.21, and for Hand Hills 16.65. For the same years the average oats production was 33.61 for the Province as a whole, and 37.82 for Acadia, 41.02 for Coronation and 29.19 for Hand Hills; while the barley production was 26.89 for Acadia, 31.06 for Coronation and 22.89 for Hand Hills, as compared with an average of 24.02 for the Province as a whole. During the same periods the average for Alberta in flax production was 9.34, and for Acadia 9.69. Coronation 12.75, Hand Hills 7.37.

A study of these actual records of production would show, said Mr. Proudfoot, that in spite of some bad years, these constituencies stood well up in the scale when a period of several years was taken into consideration.

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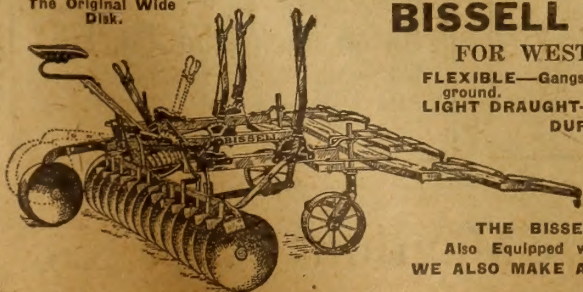
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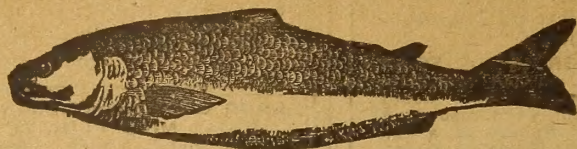
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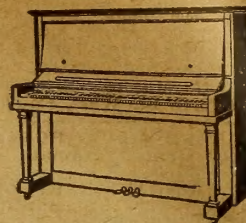
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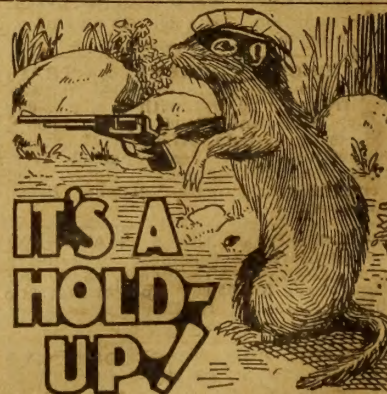
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